

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 19th November 2014

1 In Attendance: Cllrs. Adams, Down, Nutt, O'Donoghue, Wright, Bray, Riches Mills, Roberts (Chair), Cllr. Tabor (TDC) M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk),

2 Apologies for absence: none received.

3 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda: None.

4 Open Session.

Mrs. Macalister and Mr. Lines from The Retreat spoke to the Council about their plans for their land. This was in response to the Council objecting to their application which was subsequently rejected by TDC. They intend to appeal against the decision. TDC Enforcement Officer is due to visit the site this week and Cllr. Tabor asked Mr. Lines to contact her following the visit.

5 Approval of minutes of 20th August :

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were approved following a proposal from Cllr. Riches Mills seconded by Cllr. Bray.

6 Matters arising from previous minutes:

- *The Local Plan* has completed its second consultation period but due to unforeseen difficulties there will have to be a third consultation period.
- *Neighbourhood Watch:* There will be a meeting with the police next year with a view to setting up the scheme. It was proposed and accepted that the Council purchase Neighbourhood Watch notices for display as a deterrent. Cllr. Nutt to proceed.
- *Allotments:* There has been no further interest in allotments and no suitable land has been found. No further action to be taken at this time.
- *Street lighting times* seem somewhat erratic at present. Definitive information regarding times to be sought.
- *Recycling Litter:* Cllr. Tabor to follow up complaints about litter left after recycling collections.
- *TaP funds:* Cllr. Adams to purchase bulbs etc. to enhance roadsides. Budget allowance of £150.

7 Asset Register.

Cllrs. Roberts and Down have carried out a survey of the Council's possessions in preparation for drawing up the Asset Register.

The Council insurers to be contacted to check that there is adequate coverage.

8 Budget preparation.

Cllrs. discussed items which may have a bearing on the size of the next Parish Precept. This has remained unchanged for several years and the Council needs to build up its reserves. Additionally it is envisaged that TDC may no longer take responsibility for the

public toilets and other matters such as minor road works as a result of budget cuts . With elections next year there will be extra costs falling on the Council.
Cllrs. were provided with a check list to help them formulate the budget at the next meeting.

9 Broad Street road works. (Dropped kerbs for “disabled access”.)

The Council received no prior notice about this work and it was agreed that to place a crossing on a bend was not a very good idea. Devon Highways will be made aware of the community’s dissatisfaction.

Cllrs. were also unhappy about the unfinished surfacing of Broad Street.

10 Planning.

Information regarding the following applications was considered:

Leigh Farm 1/0922/2014/AGMB :	to appeal
Lana 1/0691/2014/FUL:	no objections
Trew Cottage 1/0993/2014/FUL:	no objections
West Chilla Farm 1/1058/2014/AGMB:	no objections
The Beeches 1/0952/2014/CPE:	granted
East Lake Farm 1/0851/2014/AGMB:	refused (TDC)

11 Playing Field Committee Report.

The Family Fun Day and the Fire works were both very successful, raising funds for the Playing Field.

The committee is finding the upkeep of the property is becoming harder financially and suggested an increase in the Council Precept would allow the Council to give the committee further support.

It was also suggested that more fund raising events would ease the situation. Other funding streams are to be investigated.

If a budget could be provided to the Council at its next meeting it would be helpful.

The QE11 document was signed in 2012 and then withdrawn. The deadline for its signing is November 30th. Since there has been some rewording cllrs. asked for time to consider any changes with comments to the clerk.

12 Village Hall Report.

The kerbing has been installed and funded. Quotations from three structural engineers will be obtained for the construction of a retaining wall for the car park when it is extended. One quotation of £380+VAT has already been received. Following agreement on their proposals quotations from builders will be obtained.

Following a complaint, a replacement lid for the dog waste bin at the hall, has been ordered.

13 Correspondence:

- ‘Tough Choices’- Council cuts, meeting in Memorial Hall, Holsworthy, Dec 4th, 6pm.
- Appointment of Snow Warden, The Chairman and Cllr. Riches Mills to make enquiries of possible volunteers with suitable equipment.

- Complaint about Dog Waste bin.
- Investing in Devon Grant.
- Paula Dolphin-prospective Lib Dem Parliamentary candidate.

14 Financial Statement and approval of payments.

The Financial Update Statement to 19/11/2014 which had been previously circulated to members was presented and approved.

Current Account holds £4536.10

Reserve a/c holds £3175.60

15 Items for consideration at the next meeting Wednesday January 14th 2015

- Budget.
- Asset Register.
- Black Torrington Parish Plan.